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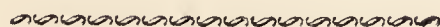
OF THE

AND OF THE

## For the year 1946



**The Urban District of Penrith**



**ANNUAL REPORTS**

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health**

AND OF THE

**Sanitary Inspector**


**For the year 1946**



**Penrith :**

**“ HERALD ” PRINTING CO., LTD., 14-15, King Street.**

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Public Health Department,  
Town Hall,  
PENRITH,  
26th June, 1947.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF PENRITH.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MRS. JOHNSON AND GENTLEMEN :

I have pleasure in placing before you my Eleventh Annual Report on the health of the town.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the instructions contained in Circular 13/47 of the Ministry of Health dated 13th March, 1947, and on the lines indicated in Circular 28/46 dated 11th February, 1946.

The population of the Urban Area is estimated by the Registrar-General to be 9,653, which is an increase of 235 on 1945.

The death rate, which is very similar to that for 1945, is about the average for the Cumberland Urban Districts, whereas the Infantile Mortality Rate at 31.25 is considerably lower than the County average rate 47, and the rate for England and Wales at 43.

The birth rate at 23.2 must be one of the highest since 1918 and compares with the County average rate of 19.5, and England and Wales with 19.1, and coupled with the low infantile mortality rate constitutes a favourable reflection on the health of the town during the year.

While the vital statistics for 1946 were satisfactory, the incidence of the infectious diseases was at a low ebb, and, in fact, only three cases of Scarlet Fever were recorded.

One case of diphtheria in a non-immunised child occurred, and in this connection still further progress with the immunisation of children against this dreaded disease has to be noted.

There were no cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis in 1946, and it is a matter for commendation that there are now six Tuberculin Tested producers within the Urban Area and two Tuberculin Tested producers outside the area whose milk is retailed here.

The water supply, which is entirely from an upland surface source, continues to be satisfactory in quality and quantity, and the results of bacteriological and chemical examinations have proved the water to be excellent. The filter house at Hayeswater functions in a most efficient manner and chalk is added before filtration through sand batteries.

The housing problem remains anxious and acute and progress in house construction has unfortunately been retarded by unfavourable weather and shortages in labour and building materials. The special housing survey, which was completed early

in the year, constitutes a most valuable record of local housing conditions.

In conclusion my thanks are extended to the members of the Sanitary and Housing Committees and to my colleagues on the Staff.

I am,  
 Your obedient Servant,  
 F. W. GAVIN,  
 Medical Officer of Health.

**STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.**

Area of the District (in acres)	...	...	...	...	7,586
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	...	2,831
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£65,090
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	£262	8s.	2½d.
Registrar-General's estimate of the population	...	...	...	...	9,653
Live Births :		Male	Female	Total	
Legitimate	...	92	110	202	
Illegitimate	...	10	12	22	
				224	
Birth Rate per 1,000 of population	...	...	...	...	23.20
Birth Rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	...	19.1
Still Births :		Male	Female	Total	
Legitimate	...	1	3	4	
Illegitimate	...	1	—	1	
Rate per 1,000 (total births, live and still)	...	...	...	...	21.83
Deaths		Male	Female	Total	
		59	76	135	
Death Rate per 1,000 of population	...	...	...	...	13.98
Death Rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	...	11.5
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	...	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate	...	...	...	...	Nil
Death Rate of Infants under one year :					
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	31.25
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	22.32
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	90.90
Infantile Death Rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	...	43.0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	22
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	...	...	...	...	1

**VITAL STATISTICS.**

I am indebted to Dr. Kenneth Fraser, County Medical Officer of Health, for the following statistics, viz. :

	Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate
Administrative County of Cumberland ...	19.5	12.6	47.0
Urban Districts of Cum- berland (including Boroughs of Work- ington and White- haven) ...	20.9	13.2	48.0
Rural Districts of Cum- berland ...	18.6	12.1	46.0
Urban District of Penrith	23.2	13.98	31.25
England and Wales ...	19.1	11.5	43.0

**INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1946.**

Seven deaths of infants under one year of age occurred in 1946.

- (1) Female, died 9 months old from Broncho-Pneumonia
- (2) Female, die 1 month old from Prematurity
- (3) Female, died 6 hours old from Prematurity
- (4) Male, died 2 months old from Accidental Asphyxia
- (5) Female, died 1 month old from Convulsions
- (6) Female, died 3 weeks old from Inanition and Spina Bifida
- (7) Male, died 1 day old from Broncho-Pneumonia.

Infantile Mortality Rate for 1946—31.25.

CUMBERLAND PATHOLOGICAL LABORATORY.

Cumberland Infirmary,  
Carlisle,  
22nd April, 1947.

EXAMINATION OF WATER.

Time and place of sample taken—Fire Station, Portland Place, Penrith,  
22nd April, 1947.

EXAMINATION OF WATER.

Bacteriology.

Agar plate count ...	0.1 ml.	1 ml.	10 ml.
	Colonies	Colonies	Colonies
at 22° C. ... ..	Nil	7	87
at 37° C. ... ..	Nil	Nil	9
Probable number of coli-aerogenes present in 100 ml. ...	absent		

Chemistry.

Appearance in a 2 ft. tube—Clear and colourless.  
pH. 8.0.

	Parts per 100,000					
Free and saline ammonia ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	0.0018
Albuminoid ammonia ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	0.0068
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 15 mins. at 27° C. ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	0.012
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27° C. ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	0.028
Total solids ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	3.9
Suspended matter ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	0.0
Hardness—total ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2.4
permanent ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1.7
temporary ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	0.7
Chlorine present as ehlorides ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	0.50
Heavy metals ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Nitrates						

OPINION : A pure and wholesome water.

(Signed) LESLIE H. EASSON,  
Chemist.



Meat and other Foods:

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Beasts	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed ... ..	1479	858	1329	8984	148
Number iaspected ... ..	1479	858	1329	8984	148
All diseases except Tubercu- losis :					
Whole Carcases condemned	50	73	189	115	5
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	924	639	10	784	15
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than T.B.	65.85%	82.98%	14.97%	10%	13.51%
Tuberculosis only :					
Whole Carcases condemned	23	73	3	Nil	7
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	163	231	7	Nil	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B. ... ..	12.57%	35.43%	0.75%	Nil	6.75%

The following additional items were condemned by the Veterinary Officer during the year :

- 1 side of Frozen Pork—rancid
- 1 part hindquarter of Beef—bone taint
- 28 12 oz. tins C.C. Beef—decomposition
- 102 6 lb. tins C.C. Beef—decomposition
- 54½ lbs. C.C. Beef—decomposition
- 18 6 lb. tins C.C. Mutton—decomposition.

CARCASES EXAMINED BY THE VETERINARY SURGEON.

PENRITH MUNICIPAL SLAUGHTERHOUSE.

	Cattle (excl. Cows)	Cows	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Calves
January ... ..	85	59	1141	14	29
February ... ..	56	38	686	12	92
March ... ..	64	58	408	13	121
April ... ..	139	50	183	12	72
May ... ..	163	41	272	5	38
June ... ..	116	59	402	12	40
July ... ..	106	68	392	13	169
August ... ..	125	68	478	7	98
September ... ..	236	94	828	22	131
October ... ..	154	107	1479	11	151
November ... ..	131	119	1550	7	179
December ... ..	104	97	1165	20	209
Yearly Total ... ..	1479	858	8984	148	1329

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

### Smallpox :

During the year four contacts were examined by me in this area, and each case was found to be quite free from any symptoms of this disease, and to have evidence of recent successful vaccination or re-vaccination.

These contacts were all from ships recently returned from the Middle or Far East.

### Scarlet Fever :

Only three cases were notified in 1946, compared with 18 cases in 1945.

### Diphtheria :

One case was notified in 1946, and this child, whose age was two years, had not been immunised, whereas her brother, aged 12 years, who had been immunised, remained perfectly well. She was admitted to the Isolation Hospital and made a good recovery.

A total of 20 school children and 150 pre-school children completed a course of two injections with A.P.T. during the year, and at 31st December, 1946, it was estimated that 734 pre-school age children and 1,420 school children had completed a course of immunising injections against diphtheria.

During the year 86 school children received a " booster " or re-inforcing injection against diphtheria.

The diphtheria notifications during the last 14 years are as follows :

Years	Diphtheria Cases	Deaths
1934	23	Nil
1935	32	2
1936	23	1
1937	19	Nil
1938	19	Nil
1939	10	Nil
1940	4	Nil
1941	1	Nil
1942	1	Nil
1943	2	1
1944	12	2
1945	2	Nil
1946	1	Nil

### **Paratyphoid Fever :**

This case—a Polish soldier, aged 19 years—was admitted to Fairhill Isolation Hospital from Brougham Camp, and no source of infection could be found in this district.

It is possible that he was infected outside the Penrith area. This case was mild and made a good recovery.

### **Pneumonia :**

Seven cases were notified, with one death, a male aged 63 years, as compared with four cases and two deaths in 1945.

### **Bacillary Dysentery (Sonne) :**

Only five cases were recorded in 1946, compared with twenty-five cases in 1945. Each of these cases had a different milk supply and the source of infection was unknown. It is, however, probable that chronic carriers, of which there must be a large number in this country, are responsible for cases which keep cropping up from time to time, and in this connection the importance of food handlers cannot be over-emphasised. All food handlers should be most scrupulous to wash their hands after using a toilet.

### **Whooping Cough :**

Nineteen cases were notified, mostly in the summer months and there were no deaths.

Immunisation against this disease is at present being undertaken at Manchester, Tottenham and Wembley ; the results of this work, which is experimental, will not be known for a year or two.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Diseases	AGES												Totals	Admitted to Isolation Hosp	Deaths
	-1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65-			
Smallpox ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever ... ..	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-
Diphtheria ... ..	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Enteric Fever (inc. Paratyphoid) ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Puerperal Fever ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Primary or Influenzal Pneumonia ...	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	1	7	-	1
Erysipelas ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	4	1	7	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bacillary Dysentery (Sonne) ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	1	-	5	-	-
Measles ... ..	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	-
Whooping Cough ... ..	4	2	2	3	3	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	19	-	-
												Totals ...	48	4	1



## CANCER.

Twenty-two deaths were attributed to malignant disease, giving a death rate of 2.28 per 1,000 of the population ; in 1945 there were 17 deaths and a rate of 1.80 per 1,000.

The details are as follows :

System :			Males	Females
<b>Alimentary :</b>				
Buccal	...		1	2
Stomach	...		—	1
Colon	...		1	3
Pancreas	...		—	2
<b>Reproductive :</b>				
Uterus	...		—	1
Breast	...		—	5
Lung :	...	...	3	—
Mediastinum :	...		—	1
Spinal :	...	...	1	—
<b>Skin :</b>				
Lip	...	...	1	—
Totals			7	15

5 of the deaths occurred among persons aged between 34 & 50 years						
4	„	„	„	„	„	51 & 60 „
7	„	„	„	„	„	61 & 70 „
2	„	„	„	„	„	71 & 75 „
4	„	„	„	„	„	76 & over

Total number of deaths—22

59 per cent. of the deaths were over 60 years of age, and 61½ years was the average age at death.—

**TUBERCULOSIS CASES, 1946.**

Ages			New Cases				Deaths			
			Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
To	1 year	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1-5	... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5-15	... ..	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
	15-25	... ..	3	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
	25-35	... ..	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
	35-45	... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
	45-55	... ..	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
	55-65	... ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	65 & upwards		—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals ...			7	8	—	—	3	3	—	—

**NUMBER OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS ON REGISTER  
AT 31st DECEMBER, 1946.**

Males			Females		Total
Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
22	4	19	6		51

No action has been necessary in respect of Tuberculosis among persons employed in the milk trade or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis.

The total number of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1946, is 51, which compares with 48 at the corresponding period in 1945. Four of the fifteen new cases were transfers from other areas, and four were ex-Servicemen recently discharged from H.M. Forces.

# CAUSES OF DEATH AS GIVEN BY THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL.

	Males	Females	Total
Respiratory Tubercle ... ..	3	1	4
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	—	1	1
Cancer of buccal cavity and œsophagus (males), Uterus (females) ... ..	1	1	2
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	1	2	3
Cancer of Breast ... ..	—	5	5
Cancer of all other Sites ... ..	5	7	12
Diabetes ... ..	1	—	1
Intra-cranial vascular lesions ... ..	8	10	18
Heart Diseases ... ..	15	19	34
Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	4	7	11
Bronchitis ... ..	5	2	7
Pneumonia ... ..	2	3	5
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ...	1	—	1
Diarrhœa (under two years) ... ..	—	1	1
Appendicitis ... ..	1	—	1
Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	1	—	1
Nephritis ... ..	1	3	4
Premature Birth ... ..	—	1	1
Congenital malformation, birth injury or infantile diseases ... ..	—	4	4
Suicide ... ..	2	—	2
Other violent causes ... ..	2	2	4
All other causes ... ..	6	7	13
	—	—	—
	59	76	135
	—	—	—

## PENRITH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Public Health Department,  
Town Hall,  
Penrith,  
June, 1947.

Dr. F. W. GAVIN,  
Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

In the absence through illness of Mr. Butler, I submit the Annual Report on the work carried out by the Health Department during the year 1946.

### **Milk Supply :**

This Urban District is fortunate in the large proportion of producers of Tuberculin Tested Milk compared to the number of producers of Ungraded Milk.

Throughout the year visits have been made to all farms in the district and in general it was found that a high standard was maintained. While I feel that the fixing of the appointed day for the coming into operation of the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944, cannot be much longer delayed, this Department will continue to do everything in its power to raise the standard of milk production in the district. I appreciate that in these days of shortages of materials little can be done to improve buildings, but by exercising care in production methods we should be able to expect a pure and wholesome milk supply.—

The number of cowkeepers, dairymen, etc., is as follows :

Number of Wholesale Purveyors of Milk	...	...	26
Number of above producing Graded Milk	...	...	6
Number of Retail Purveyors	...	...	9

### **Bacteriological Examination of Milk :**

The standard adopted for designated milk is that laid down in the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936, to 1946, viz. : That a sample taken between 1st May and 31st October shall be regarded as satisfying the methylene blue reduction test if it fails to decolourise the methylene blue in  $4\frac{1}{2}$  hours, and a sample taken between 1st November and 30th April if it fails to decolourise the methylene blue in  $5\frac{1}{2}$  hours. A bad sample can be gauged by the time taken for the methylene blue to decolourise, in other words the shorter the time the " dirtier " the milk.

The standard for coliform bacilli is that there must be none present in more than one tube of 1/100 m.l. There is no bacteriological standard for non-designated milk but samples of such milk are subjected to the same tests as for designated milk.



The following is the result of the samples taken during 1946 :

Of the 31 samples taken at farms producing T.T. milk, 29 were entirely satisfactory, one failed in one test only and one failed in both tests.

Of the three samples taken at farms producing ungraded milk, two were entirely satisfactory and one failed in one test only.

Of the 29 samples, of all grades, taken at dairy premises, eight were entirely satisfactory, 17 failed in one test only and four failed in both tests.

### **Milk in Schools :**

All the Schools in the town are supplied with Tuberculin Tested Milk.

### **Meat and Food Inspection :**

The meat inspection at the Abattoir is undertaken by a Veterinary Inspector but this Department has been active in carrying out inspections at premises where food is manufactured or sold.

### **Fish, Poultry, etc. :**

Fish shops are inspected regularly and while there is little to object to, and the bulk of the fish condemned has been from Fried Fish Shops, I deprecate the practice of mixing the sale of fish and vegetables and of having fish exposed to the dirt and dust of a busy street.

During the year 30½ stones of fish and 28 lbs. of prawns were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

### **Bakehouses :**

The bakehouses in the district were found, on inspection, to be satisfactory, and only very minor defects required attention.

### **Ice Cream :**

These premises have received very careful scrutiny throughout the year and have been regularly inspected. Some improvements had been carried out during the year, but it is expected that the provisions of Sections 13 and 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, along with the new Heat Treatment Regulations, will effect a much greater improvement in both premises and quality of ice cream. I hope to be in a position to give more detailed information next year.

### **Hotel, Restaurant and Cafe Kitchens :**

Catering as we do in Penrith for a large number of visitors and for the regular influx on market day, the condition of these premises becomes of importance. A certain amount of inspection work has been carried out and although it only amounts to what

might be described as “breaking the ice,” some repairs and improvements have resulted. I attach great importance to the condition of premises, etc., where meals are prepared, and I expect to make detailed and regular inspections of all such premises, and to be able to report more fully next year.

### Condemned Food :

During 1946 the following food was condemned as unfit for human consumption and was destroyed or otherwise disposed of :

132 tins Milk	10 stones Flour
51 „ Jam	10½ lbs. Margarine
1340 „ Meat	9 cwts. Manufacturing Margarine
88 „ Fish	153 lbs. Butter
95 „ Vegetables	7½ „ Cheese
5 „ Soup	12 „ Lard
22 „ Fruit	531 „ Bread
1 tin Syrup	56 „ Oatmeal
1½ lbs. Sausage Meat	8 cases Oranges
274 „ Cooked Meat	30¾ lbs. Turkish Sultanas
30½ stones Fresh Fish	112 lbs. Sweets
28 lbs. Prawns	2 bottles Sauce
239¼ „ Bacon	3 cartons Ice-Cream Cones
20¾ „ Ham	
37¾ „ Tea	

### Housing :

During the year the housing survey of the district was completed. This survey has shown that there are in the district a large number of houses not in all respects fit for human habitation, and it has served as a good indication of future requirements. Used in conjunction with the known cases of overcrowding, and the list of ordinary applicants for houses, it should prove of some value until such time as the Council can embark once more on the clearance and demolition of uninhabitable houses, and the improvement of houses capable of being made fit.

For the survey, the district was divided into six areas as follows :

**Area 1**—Old London Road, Roper Street, Friargate, Crown Terrace, Churchyard, Benson Row and one side of Burrowgate, Sandgate and Fell Lane.

**Area 2**—Southend Road, Langton Street, Princes Street, Great Dockray, West Lane and one side of Castlegate.

**Area 3**—One side of Castlegate, Little Dockray, Elm Terrace, Blue Bell Lane, Brunswick Road and one side of Duke Street.

**Area 4**—One side of Burrowgate and Sandgate, Meeting-house Lane, Albert Street, Queen Street, Wilson Row and one side of Duke Street.

**Area 5**—Watson Terrace, Stricklandgate, Drovers Lane, Foster Street, Harrison Street, Scotland Road, Robinson Street and Milton Street.

**Area 6**—Castletown

The houses inspected were classified into four categories as follows :

Category I—Houses fit or with minor defects only.

Category II—Houses requiring structural alterations or repair.

Category III—Houses requiring reconditioning or reconstruction.

Category IV—Unfit houses.

The following table shows the number of houses in each Category in the six areas :

Area	Category I	II	III	IV	Total
1	33	32	18	125	208
2	43	8	12	87	150
3	40	—	2	36	78
4	19	7	12	96	134
5	68	61	45	95	269
6	58	26	—	44	128
Total ...	261	134	89	483	967

Almost exactly 50 per cent. of the houses inspected are in Category IV, but it does not necessarily follow that these are all houses which must inevitably be demolished. Quite a number are back-to-back houses which can be made into through houses, and many are houses which either by adaptation, modernisation, etc., can be rendered fit or reasonably fit for habitation.

The repair of defects to house property presents quite a problem because of scarcity of materials and it has been the policy of this Department only to ask for the most essential work to be done. There is no doubt, however, that an immense amount of repair work is accumulating and only an abundant supply of building materials and an adequate labour force can hope to do this very necessary work. As house building still carries first priority, it must be some considerable time before repair work is being undertaken normally.



**Schools :**

Visits have been made to all the schools and, with the exception that the closets at the Girls' National School were frozen up in February, everything was found to be satisfactory.

**Tents, Vans and Sheds :**

There is only one recognised camping site in the district, but at certain seasons of the year itinerant campers cause nuisance and annoyance in many parts of the area, and it is only with the help of the police that they are kept on the move.

**Factories Act, 1937 :**

The provisions of this Act relating to sanitary conveniences is enforced by District Councils in all factories, and the provisions relating to cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation and drainage of floors in factories where mechanical power is not used.

During the year attention was drawn to defects in sanitary accommodation at three premises and repairs were carried out.

**Shops Act, 1934 :**

It was not found possible to make normal routine visits to shops and it was only on receipt of a specific complaint that an inspection was made. I hope, however, to make detailed inspections during 1947, and to bring this section of my duties up to date.

**Disinfection and Disinfestation :**

During the year 16 houses were disinfected either after cases of infectious disease, deaths from tuberculosis or on the request of the occupants.

**Rats and Mice Destruction :**

Regular baiting and poisoning is carried out at the refuse tip and in the sewers, with the result that they are maintained almost entirely free from rats. Using the Ministry of Food methods successful clearance has been effected at several premises where minor rat infestations had occurred.

**General :**

There is no doubt that the scarcity of materials and labour and the restrictions placed on anything but essential work has had its effect on the duties of Sanitary Inspectors. Despite this I feel that the Health Department can be reasonably satisfied with the amount of progress made, and I can only hope that before the time comes for preparing another Annual Report conditions will be more settled and materials more readily available.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

J. R. MILLER,

Additional Sanitary Inspector.









